

REMARKS

The Examiner has stated that claims 3-5, 7-12, 14, 17, 19-26, 28, 31-40 and 42 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in the Action of March 16, 2005 and to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner objected to claim 12 as being a duplicate of claim 11, to claim 26 as being a duplicate of claim 25 and to claim 40 as being a duplicate of claim 39. Applicants have examined claims the originals of claims 11, 12, 25, 26, 39 and 40 and have found that they were not duplicates. There are distinct differences in the last clauses of claims 11 and 12, 25 and 26 and 39 and 40. However, Applicants believe the Examiners objections to claims 11, 12, 25, 26, 39 and 40 are moot in light of Applicants amendments to claims 11, 12, 25, 26, 39 and 40.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 6, 13, 15-16, 18, 27, 29, 30 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over Frans et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2005/0035797A). Applicants believe the Examiners rejection of claims 1-2, 6, 13, 15-16, 18, 27, 29, 30 and 41 are moot in light of Applicants amendments to claims 2-3, 5-8, 10-14, 16-22, 24-28, 30, 31, 33-36, and 38-42 to include the subject matter indicated as allowable by the Examiner.

The Examiner rejected claims 7, 18 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. 112 (second paragraph) for lack of antecedent basis. In response, Applicants have amended claims 7, 18 and 35 to change the claims they depend from in order to provide the required antecedent basis.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0456.

Respectfully submitted,
FOR: Bernstein et al.

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